policy of reservation is being implemented successfully and the drop out rates of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes students are not found to be increasing.

Agreement for child protection with UNICEF

*28. MS. MABEL REBELLO:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India has entered into a new agreement with UNICEF to check violence against children and reduce the rate of HIV/AIDS among adolescents during the next five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to set up child protection units in different States under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether this programme would go a long way to help SC/ST children, especially the girls; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) for 2008-2012 was signed by Government of India with UNICEF on June 3, 2008, with the overall goal to advance the fulfilment of the rights of all children and women in India to survival, development, participation and protection by reducing social inequalities. The CPAP focuses on the reduction of infant mortality and maternal mortality rates, fighting undernutrition, tackling HIV/AIDS in children and adolescents, providing quality education, ensuring safe water and environmental sanitation, as well as progress on child protection issues.

(c) to (f) Ministry of Women and Child Development has formulated a new centrally sponsored scheme namely 'Integrated Child Protection Scheme' (ICPS) for implementation during the Eleventh Plan Period with the objective to provide a safe and secure environment to all children including girls and children from SC/ST communities who are in need of care and protection as well as children in conflict with law in the country. Under this Scheme, provision has been made for setting up of State Child Protection Society (SCPS) for every State and also for District Child Protection Society (DCPS) in every district of the country for coordination and effective implementation of the child protection legislation, schemes and achievement of child protection goals laid out in the National Plan of Action for Children 2005, at the State level and district level respectively. The Scheme is yet to receive competent approvals.

High Court Bench at Thiruvananthapuram

*29. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :